



“Investing in Africa’s future”

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES, THEOLOGY & EDUCATION

HIE 101: INTENSIVE ENGLISH 1 PAPER 1

PAPER 1: READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

LECTURER: DR P.R SVONGORO

DURATION: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer ALL questions in this paper.
2. All answers must be written in the answer booklet provided.
3. Marks for each question are indicated in brackets at the end of each question.
4. Answer each question according to the instructions given.
5. Organise your work clearly and write legibly.

SECTION A: TEXTUAL COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY
marks]

[50

Question 1

Read the following text and answer the questions which follow.

Reading is one of the *bridges* into the English language and culture. It is perhaps the most *essential* skills for anyone learning a second language. Reading comprehension skills will help you do far more than just read. Reading *enhances* other essential English language skills such as speaking, listening and writing. Reading comprehension will also allow you to *build* vocabulary, practice pronunciation and develop grammar knowledge *subconsciously*. Thus, reading comprehension opens the door to infinite knowledge and you will come to appreciate the time you spend in class honing your reading skills. Reading comprehension is also a key component to almost all formal ESL tests worldwide. These are tests that one may be required to pass in order to attend school *abroad* or get their dream job with an international company.

- (a) In about **65 words**, explain what the paragraph is about. (7 marks)
- (b) Write down the words which can be used to replace the underlined words in the following sentences. (10 marks)
- i. Reading is one of the bridges into the English language and culture.
 - ii. It is perhaps the most essential skills for anyone learning a second language.
 - iii. Reading enhances other essential English language skills such as speaking, listening and writing.
 - iv. Reading comprehension will also allow you to build vocabulary, practice pronunciation and develop grammar knowledge subconsciously.
 - v. These are tests that one may be required to pass in order to attend school abroad or get their dream job with an international company.

Question 2

- (a) Read the email message below and then write down any 10 words connected or related to the concept 'work'. (5 marks)

Hi Eva,

I was so happy to get your email. I'm thinking about changing my line of work. My current career in computers isn't making me happy, and I don't want to do it forever. I want to enjoy my livelihood, but I just don't have any job satisfaction. I have good computer skills, and I like working with people. I would prefer an office job; I don't have the skills to do a trade. It would be great to have some freedom in my employment. I have always wondered what it would be like to have different assignments, like a journalist has. My employer says he would like to offer me

a promotion, and an increase in salary based on my good performance, but I really would like to change my occupation. Could you suggest a profession that might interest me?

Ben

- (b) Fill in the spaces below with the vocabulary you have selected in question (a) above. You may use each word ONCE only. (8 marks)

Studying for a degree in Economics is very hard 1. _____. Journalists are given many different 2. _____. I recently got a 3. _____ in my job at the bank, and now I receive a much higher 4. _____. This resources Manager has excellent communication 5. _____. He is doing a business degree, so it should be easy for him to find a good 6. _____. Carpentry and Car Mechanics are popular 7. _____ which require special skills. He is 8. _____ as a teacher at Africa University.

Question 3

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions which follow.

Many great inventions are initially greeted with **ridicule** and disbelief. The invention of the airplane was no **exception**. Although many people who heard about the first powered flight on December 17, 1903 were excited and impressed, others reacted with peals of laughter. The idea of flying an aircraft was **repulsive** to some people. Such people called Wilbur and Orville Wright, the inventors of the first flying machine, impulsive fools. Negative reactions, however, did not stop the Wrights. **Impelled** by their desire to succeed, they continued their experiments in aviation.

Orville and Wilbur Wright had always had a **compelling** interest in aeronautics and mechanics. As young boys they earned money by making and selling kites and mechanical toys. Later, they designed a newspaper-folding machine, built a printing press, and operated a bicycle-repair shop. In 1896, when they read about the death of Otto Lilienthal, the brothers' interest in flight grew into a compulsion.

Lilienthal, a pioneer in hang-gliding, had controlled his gliders by shifting his body in the **desired** direction. This idea was repellent to the Wright brothers, however, and they searched for more efficient methods to control the balance of airborne vehicles. In 1900 and 1901, the Wrights tested numerous gliders and developed control techniques. The brothers' inability to obtain enough lift power for the gliders almost led them to **abandon** their efforts.

After further study, the Wright brothers concluded that the published tables of air pressure on curved surfaces must be wrong. They set up a wind tunnel and began a **series** of experiments with model wings. Because of their efforts, the old tables were repealed in time and replaced by the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces. This work, in turn, made it possible for the brothers to design a machine that would fly. In 1903 the Wrights built their first airplane, which cost less than \$1,000. They even designed and built their own source of propulsion—a lightweight gasoline engine. When they started the engine on December 17, the airplane pulsed wildly before taking off. The plane managed to stay aloft for 12 seconds, however, and it flew 120 feet.

By 1905, the Wrights had perfected the first airplane that could turn, circle, and remain **airborne** for half an hour at a time. Others had flown in balloons and hang gliders, but the Wright brothers were the first to build a full-size machine that could fly under its own power. As the contributors of one of the most **outstanding** engineering achievements in history, the Wright brothers are accurately called the fathers of aviation.

- (a) Suggest the most appropriate heading for the passage. (2 marks)
- (b) The following sentences have been taken from the passage above. Paraphrase the sentences to show that you have understood what they mean. (8 marks)
- Many great inventions are initially greeted with ridicule and disbelief.
 - Orville and Wilbur Wright had always had a compelling interest in aeronautics and mechanics.
 - The idea of flying an aircraft was repulsive to some people.
 - The brothers' inability to obtain enough lift power for the gliders almost led them to abandon their efforts.
 - As the contributors of one of the most outstanding engineering achievements in history, the Wright brothers are accurately called the fathers of aviation.

Question 4

Using complete and grammatically correct sentences, answer the following Wh- questions based on the passage above. (10 marks)

- Which brothers are named as the fathers of aviation in the passage?
- Which two fields of engineering are mentioned in the passage?
- Which phrase was used to describe the Wright brothers by people who did not like the idea of flying aeroplanes?
- Which other two innovations are the Wright brothers known for?
- Why was research important in the work of the Wright brothers?

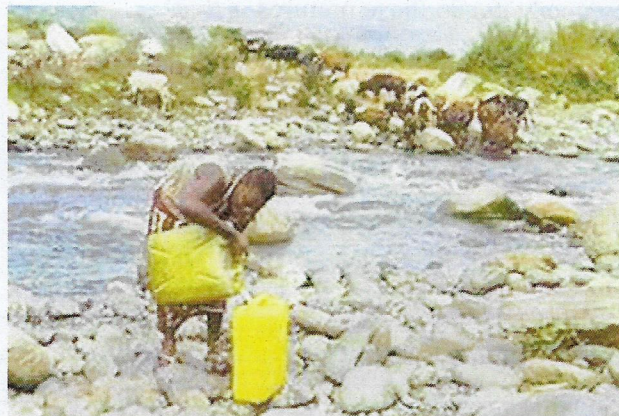
SECTION B: VISUAL TEXT AND VOCABULARY

[25 marks]

Question 5

Study the following pictures and answer the questions which follow.

Picture A



Picture B



(a) Describe these two pictures in the following way:

i. These **two pictures show** (give a brief **summary** in **one** sentence) **(2 marks)**

ii. Picture A:
In this picture, I can see..... (Give 2 or 3 **details.**) **(5 marks)**

iii. I think that (Give your opinion or **interpretation** of this picture.) (2 marks)

Do **the same** for Picture B:

iv. In Picture B, I can see....(Give 2 or 3 details). (2 marks)

v. I think that...(Give your opinion or interpretation of Picture B). (2 marks)

vi. One difference between these pictures is that (2 marks)

Question 6

The words in the table below were used in the passage above. Choose any **five** of them and complete the table according the headings given in the table. (10 marks)

	Word	Synonym	Antonym
a	ridicule		
c	compelling		
d	desired		
e	abandon		
h	airborne		
i	outstanding		

End of Examination